

CITY OF ECORSE

NEWSLETTER

1ST QUARTER 2013

[Edition 1, Volume 1]



**JOIN THE TOWN HALL – TUES. JAN. 29.
(6PM at ECORSE HIGH SCHOOL)**

*City Administrator Updates
from John Openlander*

THE TRANSITIONAL ADVISORY BOARD

Through the diligent efforts of Emergency Financial Manager Joyce Parker, Mayor Darcel Brown, City Council and Staff Members - Ecorse has corrected major financial problems and is now operating with a balanced budget. This achievement came with painful cuts in personnel and funds for street repairs, abandoned building demolition and other important services. However, we are about to embark on the next phase of the City's financial emergency: **Transition!** *What is "transition"?*

First, Ecorse will continue its financial emergency status. Then, upon Council's approval to enter into an Interlocal Agreement with the State, Ecorse would no longer have an Emergency Financial Manager (EFM). Mayor and Council would then be restored their Charter duties and be expected to carry out these responsibilities. Subsequently, a Transitional Advisory Board would be established for oversight.

What is a **Transitional Advisory Board**? The Transitional Advisory Board (TAB) is an independent advisory panel of five qualified individuals that will oversee all activities that impact the city's finances. The TAB will remain in place until the State is confident Ecorse can manage the financial and operational affairs of the City in a prudent and long term sustainable basis. Once the Board is established, the city will no longer operate under the authority of an EFM. The Mayor and Council will carry out their Charter duties with the oversight of the TAB.

The Mayor and Council have discussed the Interlocal Agreement and the Transitional Advisory Board in recent Council meetings – a decision is expected in the near future.

**Message from
Joyce A. Parker**

*Emergency Financial
Manager*

I would like to thank every resident, community member and stakeholder for your support during the past three years, as Ecorse worked through a financial emergency declared by the State of Michigan in October 2009.

It has been challenging. However, I am pleased to report Ecorse is operating with a balanced budget projected through FY 2014!

Even with the success of the city's finances, there remains a tremendous amount of work to be done.

"WORKING TOGETHER"

(continued on next page)

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

If you would like to help Ecorse fight blight, consider joining the Code Enforcement Reserves. These volunteers are assigned to a neighborhood (not necessarily your own neighborhood) to check and report trash and debris, abandoned cars and unsecured vacant houses. The amount of time you donate is your decision. Training in the springtime will be provided. If you are interested in becoming a Code Enforcement Reserve or want to volunteer to do some manual labor, contact the Public Works Department at (313) 294-3731.

Director of Public Safety,
Gerald Champagne reports
overall crime rate down
10.55% (2012 vs. 2011).

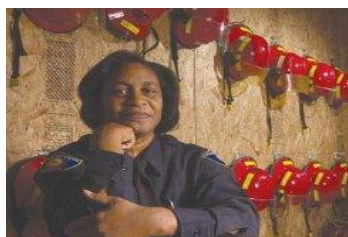
From the Office of the
Assessor: March Board of
Review dates are 3/11 and
3/13. No appt. necessary.
Please call (313) 386-2400
for additional information.

Check out the articles below
if you are looking for one
more reason to be proud of
the City of Ecorse! Enjoy!

- ◆ Crain's Detroit Business
Newsmaker of the Year
2012: Joyce Parker on
behalf of Ecorse.



- ◆ Schoolcraft Connection
The Amazing Firefighter
Grandma: Detective
Narda Bruno.



- ◆ Empower your career!
Become a part of the
Professional Placement
Network (PPN)
through MI Works!
Livonia (734) 513-
4900 or Southgate
(734) 362-3466.

**Message from
Joyce A. Parker, EFM
(continued)**

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We have an excellent
opportunity to develop
Ecorse into a vibrant and re-
envisioned city, with new
business developments, and
opportunities for our
citizens.

Your City Leaders – Mayor
Darcel Brown, Council
Members & Staff will work
diligently to re-develop
W. Jefferson Ave., Visger,
Outer Drive and Southfield
roads.

Expectations for Ecorse are
great. Please join us during
the **1st Quarter Town Hall**
(**Tues. Jan 29th at 6pm –**
Ecorse High School). You
will hear exciting and new
projects being championed
by your elected officials and
the dedicated staff at City
Hall.

Sincerely,
Joyce A. Parker, EFM

PLEASE JOIN THE COMMUNITY FOR THE
FIRST QUARTER TOWN HALL JANUARY 29TH
At 6:00pm at Ecorse High School!